man himself, for the lingam, stands for the most sacred mysteries in the occult schools. This lingam is again formed of one pearl born in that shape, set on an amethyst *yoni* and standing on an altar fringed with rubies and plated with the nine gems of Hindustan.

As befitting the idol of a king the lingam is surmounted by a gold umbrella, part of the insignia of royalty, fringed with emeralds, and at the four corners of the altar are four roses with petals of carved Burmese rubies.

And there are strange conches used in Thibetan worship, and such as the warriors blew on the field of Kurukshetra, mounted on *repousse* copper work and with gilded dragons, and again the eight glorious emblems of Buddhism of which the conch is one, set with turquoise and carved cornelian.

From the head-dress of a high Lama of Lhassa comes a piece of pure raw gold set with an enormous cabochon star sapphire, surrounded by flowers of turquoise and rough sapphires, rubies, and pearls* In the red of

the gold, and close to this an ivory cobra
closely coils round a skull, also in Chinese
ivory, whose slimy scales seem to glisten and
glide with healthy motion. There is a

beautiful